

Pizitz PTO Board Meeting Agenda Notes

November 3, 2025

Welcome

Katie Howell, President

Minutes for Approval

Lauren Thomason, Secretary

Pizitz Teacher Tips and Tricks

Michaela Spence

- Staff and admin read *The Disengaged Teen* over the summer. It helps parents, educators, or anyone working with teenagers understand teenagers better. Linked is a handout with more information about the [learning cycles in the book](#), as well as the [work habits worksheet](#) your child should have brought home. The learning to learn cycle handout goes into more detail about the book and the learning cycles. Our kids often get stuck procrastinating. The cycle continues. The learning-to-learn cycle is what we're working on as a school. There is something to be learned through the cycle. The book breaks it down into several strategies to talk to kids about. Your student should have brought home a [work habits worksheet](#). Kids first evaluated themselves, including strengths and growth opportunities. Academic strategies teachers have been meeting with kids and looking at how they evaluated themselves and talking through where there may be gaps. Next book club is Friday, Dec. 5 at either 8 a.m. or noon in the Pizitz Library. Please join us!
- Dr. Hunsberger added that when kids say "I'm bored" that can mean different things. Some kids say they are bored because they just aren't interested in the topic that day. It may not mean that they've already learned the topic. The point of this book doesn't mean you lock yourself into one category. Kids move in and out of the different categories. There are certain topics that kids are more interested in and spend more time with. The parent partnership is so important to support this connection.

Officer Reports

President

Katie Howell

- Partner with Pizitz was very successful! Dr. Hunsberger will discuss more.
- There is a legislative forum on Nov. 13 at 8 a.m. at the Mtn. Brook Board of Education. Government officials come in and walk through where the state is. It's a panel format, and is very helpful in understanding how our city is run and where the funds are distributed.
- PTO presidents are hosting the PTO Council meeting at Pizitz on Dec. 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the Library.
- No PTO meeting in December.

President Elect

Lindsay Almond

- No report.

Treasurer

Jamie McClure

- Not able to attend. Reach out to her for any reimbursements.

VP Communication (MTK)

Anne Michelle Barnett

- Not able to attend. She's done a great job of getting information out to parents.

VP Community Partners

Brittany Jones

- Not able to attend. She is working on more community partners, and the pizza parties that various classes won.

Committee Reports

Living History Day

Jamie Smith

- Living History day is this Friday, Nov. 7. Thank you to the committee for all of the help. We have approximately 30 veterans being recognized and 72 guests attending. There are a lot of 6th grade parents attending. The art students have created special art work for the event, FACTS is cooking snacks, and classes throughout the school are decorating posters. It was very special getting emails back from the veterans and their families.

Room Parent Volunteers

Lindsey DeRieux

- Not able to attend. Room parent meeting was last week, and was well attended. All classes have a room mom now.

Partner with Pizitz

Julie Cochran, Kelli Wynecker, Erica Michel

- The committee was not able to attend. The event was very successful and raised approximately \$17,000.

Faculty Representative Report

Button Smith

- Not able to attend, but wanted to thank PTO for the cozy library chairs from the grants.

Administrative Report

Dr. Hunsberger

- Partner with Pizitz was amazing. Everyone was so giving. We've had several quotes for basketball goals. We're going to be able to get 4 goals and have them installed under budget. We're hoping to also be able to do some pickle ball lines. We are hoping to order this week. They will be used throughout the school, but primarily by the PE department.
- Living History day is this week, as was mentioned above. We'll have our choir signing, and our band playing. Students will introduce their special guests. The speaker is Matt Driskill. He is a former Pizitz Pirate. He connects really well with the kids. A link will be sent out so parents can watch from home.
- The counselors are working on hot topics for parents. John Davis is coming Nov. 13. He is with Compact, which is a part of the police department. He's speaking on social media and cyber security. Liberty Park has already had him, and they said it was very helpful.
- Parent book club was mentioned above. Would love anyone to jump in!
- Most teachers dressed up for Halloween, and they went all out! Each grade level had a theme, and there was a contest. Sixth grade teachers dressed up as Mario Cart. Seventh grade teachers dressed up as various coaches, and eighth grade teachers were Toy Story.
- Holiday Assistance - we need some more families to help. This is for both Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have a partnership with Shades Mtn. Baptist, which allows each family to also receive a game with their gift card. For Thanksgiving, we're also able to partner with their food pantry. We need more families to donate gift cards.

Spirit Shop

Tracy Thornton

- Distribution will be later this week, or next week at the latest.
- School shares card - the Chamber wrote Pizitz a check for \$600. The Chamber is doing another push for the holidays. If you haven't bought your shares card, go ahead and purchase now. More information will be coming out soon.

Other

- Nov. 21 - Sunshine committee cart for Pizitz teachers and staff. Last month's Cafe Iz treats were a big hit!

Upcoming Dates:

Nov 7th

Living History Day

Nov 11th	No School for Veterans Day
Nov 24th-28th	No School for Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec 18th	Holiday Lunch for Faculty and Staff
Dec. 19th	Class Parties and Last Day of School (2 hours early dismissal)

Upcoming PTO Meetings:

No meeting in December

Jan 12th	January PTO Meeting, 12:00
Feb 2nd	February PTO Meeting, 12:00